

fore the great tree while holding an undignified wash basin and dishcloth, it was a startling but rather delicious moment when he looked up into sacred blue eyes and heard a nervous voice say:—

'Whatever did father do to the tree?'

In springing up to reassure her, the washbasin was partly upset, and the dripping hand the professor held over the fence obviously could not be shaken.

'Your father? What made you think of him? I'm—er—er—performing a scientific experiment on this maple. A—er—very superior kind of moth may come to this trap.'

'But that's water, not stickiness. One of our high school teachers used to catch moths at night with molasses.' The professor looked at her with genuine astonishment. He was certainly 'blown up by his own mine.' So even if it complicated the situation he felt a sense of relief when his aunt's voice called from the back door:—

'Paul! Paul! Is that you out there? You'd bet'er be in bed.' Then with her eyes growing used to the semi-darkness, to her astonishment and horror she saw his golden-haired companion.

'Why, Jessie Benson! What does this mean? What in the world are you out in the yard for at this time of night?'

The professor was 'hard put to it,' in Bunyan's good old phrase, and feared there was nothing ahead of him but truth-speaking. His aunt was making a rapid journey to the fence, where it seemed to relieve her a little to see that the young people still had the pickets between them.

'Say, auntie, Miss Jessie's all right. She saw me tinkering over the tree, and it was the most natural thing in the world for her to come out.' Decidedly this explanation did not suit Miss Jessie, and with cheeks fairly burning she leaned over the fence to say earnestly:—

'Oh, no, Mrs. Millray, it wasn't that at all! I saw father out here first, and then I thought it was you working over the tree, and I felt sure father had done—'

'What's that about father?' put in a gruffy voice, and with a gasp of dismay, Jessie turned to see the arrival of the last actor on the scene. Then young Waite took a firm grasp of his common sense, and all peeping aside, began to tell exact truth:—

'Aunt Melissa, about 11 o'clock I found this neighbor of yours trying to kill this tree by boring deep auger holes into it and filling them with salt. I was so mad that I was going to throw him over the fence, when our talk waked up Miss Jessie, so I let him go home in peace. I sat in the hammock for half an hour to let things calm down, then I brought some water to wash out the holes,—and since that you've all come.'

The widow was looking reproachfully at her neighbor, whose gaze was steadily directed upon the stunted beans at his feet. Finally, with a quiver in her voice she said:—

'Jim, this don't seem much like old times, when you an' Ben used to sit out under this tree an' smoke your pipes. I'll—I'll pay for your beans, Jim,—but as for cuttin' into Ben's tree, I won't.'

'Melissy!' the old man burst out with the stifled passion of years. 'Didn't you know I've hated that tree ever since that courtin' time. By good rights, I'd a hated Ben too, 'f he hedn't been so good natured. Ye ought to 'a' been on my side o' the fence, Melissy, an' 'f I'd 'a' had the spunk of a sheep, ye would 'a' been.' It was the tragic moment, there in the damp an' the dimness. Jessie shook with nervousness till she had to cling to the fence for support.

'Jim, don't talk so,' said the widow, in a voice they scarcely recognised. 'As true as I live, I never supposed you cared. You never said so.'

There was a tense stillness, which it seemed as if eternity could not break. Prof. Waite was just thinking, 'What on earth can be said by anybody now?'—when to his horror, a wholly unexpected, resounding sneeze burst from him before he could check it. But there seemed to be a magic in it for the loosening of tongues,—

'Mercy on us! What are we all thinking of? Paul will get cold, an' it will settle in his eyes; Jessie will be too hoarse to sing at the concert, while Jim an' I'll have rheumatism for sure. You've all got to come into my kitchen an' be dosed with ginger tea.' Jessie expected rebellion on her father's part, but with meekness he crawled through the two loosened pickets and the girl obediently followed him. It was all like an amazing Arabian Night's scene to young Waite,—the sudden change from the discomfort and passion of the group under the dark maple, to the light and comfort and friendliness of his aunt's bright kitchen.

Meekly still, old Benson took his steaming cup of ginger tea, but the first gulp seemed to choke him, for he set it down hastily and went straight across the room to his neighbor.

'Melissy, I guess you've made me ashamed o' myself. D'ye s'pose I've killed the tree?' Here the professor broke in,—

'Sure not, Mr. Benson! Miss Jessie and I will give it a good washing in the morning.' The widow laid a motherly hand on her old friend's arm,—

'There, Jim, don't you worry no more. I've always meant to tap that tree an' never got it done. Now you've saved me the trouble, an' if you'll jest set to work an' whittle me out some spiles, I'll be all ready, come spring.' Her imagination warmed as she went on, and with a beaming smile she added, 'Why, I can jest see Paul and Jessie sittin' here stirrin' off sugar together!' This sweet vision was almost too much for the young folks, but the old man slowly nodded,—

'I guess, Melissy, in a good sap year, 't would fix ye out for syrup.'—Exchange.

How to Revive a Victim of Drowning

During the present bathing season there is always a possibility of accidents occurring, and therefore the following directions for resuscitating apparently drowned persons, which have been issued by the Life Saving Service of the United States, are well worth attention. The methods prescribed are said to be more efficacious than those heretofore employed, resulting in a more rapid oxygenation of the blood and restoration of breathing. The face of the patient is first to be exposed to the air, facing the wind. Water is to be expelled from the stomach and lungs by turning the patient on his face, having first separated the jaws with a piece of wood and placed a firm roll of clothing beneath the stomach. Then press heavily on the back over the stomach until all fluid has been expelled from the mouth.

How to Induce Breathing.

After this preliminary treatment comes the production of breathing. Place the patient on his back, keep the tongue out to prevent it slipping back, and choking the entrance to the windpipe. Grasp the arms below the elbows and draw them up beside the head, making the hands come as near meeting as possible. If there are two persons in the work one gets astride the patient facing his head, while the first man brings the patient's hands towards his sides, the second, at the moment the hands are near the ground, leans over with his whole weight on his hands, the thumbs in the pit of the patient's stomach and the fingers in the groove of the short ribs, pressing with great force as if he were trying to force all the contents of the chest out of the mouth. At the end he gives a final thrust as violent as possible. With children and delicate persons the treatment should be made somewhat more gently.

When There is One Worker.

If no assistance is at hand and one person must work alone, place the patient on his back with his shoulders raised on a folded article of clothing; draw forward the tongue and keep it projecting just beyond the lips. If the lower jaw be lifted the teeth may be made to hold the tongue in place.

It may be necessary to retain the tongue by passing a handkerchief under the chin and tying it over the head. Grasp the arms just below the elbows and draw them steadily upward by the side of the patient's head to the ground, the hands nearly meeting. Next lower the arms to the side and press firmly downward and inward on the sides and in front of the chest over the lower ribs, drawing toward the patient's head. Repeat these movements twelve to thirteen times every minute. The limbs of the patient should be dried and rubbed firmly toward the body. When respiration returns the artificial breathing must be continued for some time. The patient should be stripped, wrapped in blankets and put to bed.

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